constantly striving to bring even more superior varieties than some already on the market, larger flowers, more finesse, better blooming and growing habits.

HYBRIDIZING: Start with selecting a mother plant that has most of the desirable qualities you expect of a Hibiscus plant, then you take the ripe pollen from another Hibiscus bloom whose characteristics seem most desirable and lacking in the mother plant. Now, dust the pollen of this other plant on the stigma pads of the mother plant. If the union is successful, a seed-pod will develop in the course of time that may contain from one to thirty seeds. When this seed-pod ripens, turns brown and cracks, it is ready to remove from bush. Plant seed in sterilized soil for best results, when you get four true leaves on new seedlings, transplant to quart cans. When large enough, transplant to gallon cans, when too large for gallon cans and have not bloomed, transplant again to larger can and so on until they do bloom. It may take six months to three years for a seedling to bloom.

If you are going after a certain color of bloom and a good blooming and growing bush, it may take years to get the desired result. When you finally get your "Dream Hibiscus" flower, graft it to a fast growing understock for best results. Its good to see if your "Dream Hibiscus" will grow on its own root. Some Hibiscus root so poorly that it is actually cheaper to graft them. However, there are many that will make superior plants on their own roots. You will find also that there are some varieties that will graft better on different rootstock, due to non-compatible root sap.

It takes time and patience to get the utmost of better Hibiscus flowers and plants, yet its lots of fun and a fine hobby if you can afford it.

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DON'T FORGET THE ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 6th & 7th.
San Juan Hotel, Orlando, Florida.

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"KEEP ON"

One step won't take you very far;
You've got to keep on walking.
One word won't tell folks who you are;
You've got to keep on talking.
One inch won't make you very tall;
You've got to keep on growing.
One little call won't do at all;
You've got to keep on calling.

-Author unknown.